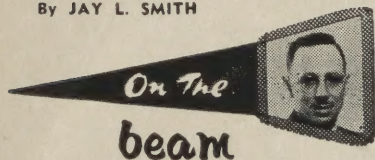


Hail Canada - U.S. Friendship

By JAY L. SMITH



Three outstanding motion picture productions, which your editor was fortunate enough to see recently, are certain to do their share towards jolting the Industry out of its box-office doldrums. The three are M-G-M's "Bhowani Junction," UA's "Trapeze," and W-B's "The Searchers."

The former opened last weekend at Loew's, Uptown and Downtown theatres in Toronto, and it will be followed, in both houses, by the Hecht-Lancaster production. The Whitney production is currently in its second week at the Imperial, Toronto.

In respect to the Metro film, I had read the best selling novel by John Masters, from which Sonya Levien and Ivan Moffatt had fashioned the screenplay, and I was pre-sold on the story, as motion picture material. I was certainly not disappointed, and much as I enjoyed the book, I enjoyed the picture considerably more. Ava Gardner has never been a particular favorite of mine, but I must admit that she is magnificent as the Anglo-Indian girl who is torn between her loyalty to her Indian blood, and her love for a British officer. Conflict between the British, the Indian Nationalists, and the Communist extremists, provides an exciting background for a powerful motion picture, that should prove top box-office everywhere.

Produced by Pandro S. Berman, and directed by George Cukor, the picture was shot on location in Pakistan, and the breath taking color photography, plus Cinemascope lensing, is alone worth the price of admission. The teaming of

(Continued on Page 2)

'Ten Commandments' Star Unveils Monument At Int'l. Peace Garden

Brandon: Close to fifty thousand persons recently attended ceremonies at which a monolith of the Ten Commandments was presented to the International Peace Garden — on the Canada-U.S. border of North Dakota—by the Grand Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Film star Charlton Heston, who portrays Moses in Cecil B. DeMille's production of "The Ten Commandments," was the principal speaker and unveiled the gift which commemorates the lasting friendship between the United

Bad Weather Hurts Variety Ball Game

Toronto: The first thunderstorm following a week of blistering hot weather kept down attendance at the Annual Variety Ball Game, held at Maple Leaf Stadium last Friday night. Despite a bang-up

(See BALL GAME Page 10)

(See CANADA-U.S. Page 6)

Continued Flow Of Fine Films From Republic, Says Vaughan

Toronto: Frank Vaughan, General Manager of J. Arthur Rank Film Distributors, Canadian franchise holders for Republic Pictures, assured The Digest last week, that in spite of the many rumours and speculations regarding the control of Republic Pictures Corp., the company has already completed, or has in production, a sufficient number of outstanding productions, to guarantee a steady flow of fine films for the next 12 months, at least. In addition, Vaughan stated that it was his understanding, that

(See REPUBLIC Page 7)

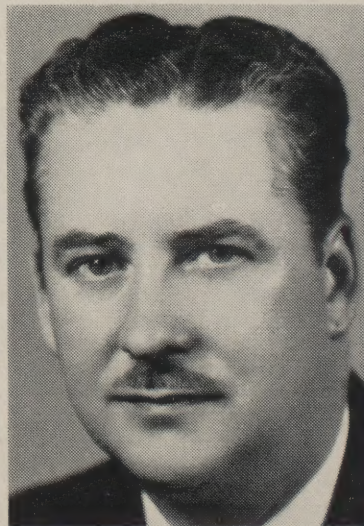
Que. Pioneers Elect Romeo Vandette, Pres.

Montreal: The 8th Annual Meeting of the Quebec Branch of the Canadian Motion Picture Pioneers

(See PIONEERS Page 10)

Myers Shifts Fox Men

Toronto: Peter Myers, Canadian District Manager for 20th Century-Fox, this week announced the appointment of Dawson Exley, currently Saint John Branch Manager for the company, to the position of Vancouver Branch Manager, effective July 1st. Succeeding Exley as Saint John Branch Manager is Gordon Lightstone, Jr., of the head office sales staff. Exley, who spent considerable time in Vancouver while serving with the RCAF, will leave for the B.C. Coast immediately upon the arrival of Lightstone in Saint John.



DAWSON EXLEY



GORDON LIGHTSTONE, JR.

JIM HARDIMAN, ODEON AD-PUB CHIEF, RESIGNS AS OF SEPT. 1, TO TAKE IMPORTANT EXECUTIVE POST IN HOLLYWOOD

Tax Dept. Okays W-B Capital Gain

New York: Toronto financier Lou Chesler's purchase of the W-B backlog for re-issue and TV, which was contingent upon approval by the U.S. Bureau of Internal Revenue of a 26% Capital Gains Tax on the \$21,000,000 purchase price now has the green light from the tax people, and only legal details remain for wind-up of the deal.

6th Annual Stratford Shakespearean Festival Opens To Cheers Of Press and Public. "Henry V" and "Merry Wives of Windsor" Both Rated Tops!

On the Beam

(Continued from Page 1)

Miss Gardner with Stewart Granger, is a happy one, with both stars turning in exceptionally fine performances. Other notable contributions are made by Bill Travers, Francis Mathews and Peter Illing.

The Hecht-Lancaster production of "Trapeze," which everyone connected with the Industry is freely predicting will be the greatest grosser in UA's entire 37-year history, is a superlative piece of screen entertainment, that rates raves in every department. Producer James Hill and director Carol Reed, have taken James Webb's screenplay, as adapted by Liam O'Brien, and have turned out a film that literally races through its 105 minutes running time, as if it were a four-reeler. Burt Lancaster has never been better, Tony Curtis does the best work of his career, and as for Gina Lollobrigida, WOW! More about this picture next week.

"The Searchers," first C. V. Whitney production, which is being released through Warner Bros., is an outstanding Western, ranking with "Stagecoach," "Shane," and "High Noon." It is, I believe, one of John Wayne's best pictures, and one that will endear him to his countless millions of fans. The strong, silent, role is perfect for Wayne, and teamed as he is with Jeffrey Hunter, under John Ford's expert direction and with the magnificent backdrop of Arizona's Monument Valley, as filmed in Technicolor, the final result couldn't help but add up to BOX-OFFICE. For all theatres that have ever done well with outdoor-action pictures, "The Searchers" is just the same as money in the bank. P.S. You'll enjoy it yourself, too.

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Fredericton Boasts First Licensed Female Operator

Fredericton: Miss Mary Peabody has obtained a Projectionist license, first woman in New Brunswick to claim this accomplishment. The youthful Projectionist — 21 years of age, was born and raised in Woodstock, N.B., where she attended high and vocation schools. Four years ago she went to work with the provincial visual education department where she started shipping and servicing equipment, and is at present a booker. Being ambitious, she decided to make use of her spare time so started working at the Capitol Theatre two nights a week during that period, and is now employed part-time by this theatre. The young lady became interested in her vocation while working with 16 mm. film with the audio visual department — and now finds working with the large 35 mm. projectors fascinating.

She gives all the credit for her training to Mr. Newell Fisk — the regular projectionist at the Capitol and her instructor for more than a year — incidentally, Mr. Fisk has been a projectionist for more than 25 years and is a valued member of the Capitol staff.

According to Mr. George Enos, Chairman of the New Brunswick Censor Board, Mary has enough technical knowledge to compare favorably with the majority of projectionists in New Brunswick. When she passed the examination, Mr. Enos was under the impression that there had been a couple of earlier licensed female operators — however, when he checked he found that, while there had been two or three women working in booths, they had never been licensed.

Mr. W. W. O. Fenety, well-known theatre owner, who with his son, Mr. W. G. Fenety operates the Capitol and Gaiety theatres in Fredericton, N.B., are of the opinion that theirs is an original situation and feel justly proud of their unique lady projectionist. Perhaps this young New Brunswicker is the only licensed female projectionist in Canada — if not — The Digest would be greatly interested in hearing from any others.

Wendell Corey Added To "Rainmaker" Cast

Hollywood: Wendell Corey has been signed for the pivotal role of Deputy Sheriff J. S. File, the other man in Katharine Hepburn's life, for Hal Wallis' "The Rainmaker," Paramount release starring Miss Hepburn and Burt Lancaster.

Can. Union And SAG Sign New Agreement

Montreal: The Canadian Council of Authors and Artists, Canadian union which includes motion picture actors, has signed a "mutual aid and assistance" pact with the Screen Actors' Guild, whereby the CCAA and the SAG agree to protect one another's wage scales from cut-rate competition, and whereby the members of each union may work in the other country for up to eight weeks without having to join the other union. Louis Berlinger of Montreal signed on behalf of the CCAA, with Mrs. Florence Marston, Eastern and Midwestern region director signing for the Guild.

Remake 'Jesse James'

Hollywood: Nicholas Ray has been signed by executive producer Buddy Adler to a multiple-picture directing contract at 20th Century-Fox. His first assignment will be the forthcoming CinemaScope production "Jesse James." Herbert Bayard Swope, Jr., who will produce "Jesse James," announced the signing of Robert Wagner and Jeffrey Hunter to starring roles in the picture.

Harvest in the VALLEY



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Across the Country

Toronto

Re-issues and revival nights have become the vogue in various situations in Ontario following the arrival of warm weather. An example is at St. Catharines where Manager Vern Hudson of the Capitol Theatre brought back a dual topped by "Rawhide." Thursday night has become "Revival Night" at the Odeon Theatre, Brantford, where Manager Ed Burrows started the series with playing "His Girl Friday" in addition to the regular bill for one performance. "Birth of a Nation" has been revived at a number of theatres as well as a number of more recent features such as "Niagara."

Midnight horror shows consisting of screen and stage presentations for one-night stands have returned to a number of Famous Players houses in cities of Ontario but not in Toronto. The Palace Theatre, Windsor, was one of the first to have the combination "Scream Show." Appropriately, the Capitol at Brantford featured the touring midnighter June 13.

The Hyland Theatre, Hamilton, where W. C. Tyers is the manager, has adopted the policy of starting its shows at 9.30 a.m. daily for continuous performances. The plan was inaugurated with the program consisting of "Pushover" and "Five Against the House," both featuring Kim Novak.

Former Europeans now living in the Niagara District were offered a treat at the Centre Theatre, St. Catharines, in the playing of the Ukrainian feature "Limerivna" for two days, June 13-14.

The Cinema Theatre at Hamilton is enjoying a current record with "Geordie," the picture having been held for a seventh week, as against 11 weeks for its Toronto engagement. In Ottawa the picture continued for a third week at the Little Elgin with the prospect it would go longer.

Foto-Nite Offers totalled \$8,800 last week in three cities of Ontario where groups of theatres combine for the stunt. Foto-Nite success was worth \$3,200 at any of the 17 participating theatres in Toronto while, in Ottawa, the award had reached \$3,800 and the offer was good for \$1,800 at Hamilton where eight theatres are cooperating.

Ottawa

Rumors have it that another movie theatre will close down and the property be cleared for a new commercial building some time during the summer months. The house is a small-seater, one of the earlier Five and Ten continuous spots located on one of the capital city's busier main streets. It has operated as a third-run theatre under various managements during the past twenty years and, more recently, was taken over by a well-known independent operator.

Maritimes

Visitors to St. John last week included Lloyd Mason of Springhill, N.S., and Morris Stein of Famous Players, en route back to Toronto from Newfoundland.

Jim Mitchell of the Capitol, St. John, is being welcomed back to the fold after several months stay at the Savoy, Glace Bay.

Tom Corbett of the Saint John office of 20th Century-Fox, was host last week at a party at his home in honor of Dawson Exley, manager of the local Fox office since Reg March's retirement last year. Dawson Exley is being transferred to management of the Fox branch at Vancouver, B.C. The staff of the Saint John branch presented Mr. Exley with a Sheaffer desk set, and Mrs. Exley with a beautiful corsage. During their short sojourn in Saint John, the Exleys made a host of friends, and on behalf of those present. Tom Corbett extended best wishes to the young couple for the future.

Also honored at a party at the home of Tom Corbett, were Harry Hayes and Barbara Goodman, both employees of local Fox branch, whose wedding will take place shortly.

Winnipeg

Condolences to Bud Prygrocki and his family, on the recent passing of his father-in-law, Mr. N. Ciunyk.

Visitors to Winnipeg last week included Mrs. Todd, Morris Man., and Messrs. Welykholwa, Kamsack, Sask.

Several changes at the local JARO office. Abe Kovnats, office manager, replaces salesman Ralph Zelickson, who has resigned to take a position outside the industry. Bert Segal becomes Republic special representative, and Ron Shaw, assistant booker, moves up to the office manager's spot. New booker's steno and contract clerk, replacing Mary Biggerstaff, is Marion Sadler.

The Cameron Highlanders and their Pipers paraded to the Capitol Theatre, Winnipeg, recently for the opening of "Geordie."

Vancouver

Harry Black, in charge of two F-P theatres at Prince Rupert, B.C., is here for a medical check-up. Pinch-hitting for Black is Art Lorimer of the Orpheum, Vancouver.

Floods caused temporary closing of the Castlegar Drive-In in the B.C. interior.

The Ruskin Drive-In near Haney, in the Fraser Valley area, is now operating on a two-day week-end basis.

Hector Ross, associated with Frank Kettner in the Poster Exchange and Booking Service in Calgary, was in town to look over the poster exchange situation in the Vancouver area.



Head table guests at the Quebec Picture Pioneers Banquet. L. to r. Arthur Larente, Sec'y.-Treas. and "Pioneer of the Year"; Ernest Quimet, Honorary President; Len Jones, 1st Vice-Pres.; Leo Choquette, President, Choquette Enterprises; Hon. Herve L'Heureux, U.S. Consul-General, and guest speaker; Romeo Vandette, newly-elected President; His Worship, Mayor Jean Drapeau of Montreal; Fred Peters, retiring President; Rene Lemyre, Montreal Baseball Club; Phil Maurice and Tommy Cleary, Consolidated Theatres.

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Ben Sommers Again Heads Man. Exhibs

Winnipeg: An excellent turnout was reported for the 10th Annual Meeting of the Manitoba Exhibitors' Association, which was held at Nate Rothstein's Marlborough Hotel here, Monday, June 11th. Ben Sommers, owner of the State Theatre, Winnipeg, was re-elected President of the Association for a second term. Also re-elected were Harry Hurwitz, 1st Vice-President, Harry Prygrocki, 2nd Vice-President, Ken Beach, Secretary, and Bob Hurwitz, Treasurer.

Board of Directors elected include Tom Smerchanski, John Ferguson, Ernest Diamond, Harold Bishop, Mesho Triller, Dave Carr, George Miles, Bill Minuk, Dave Rothstein, and Richard Miles, all of Winnipeg, and J. Ferley, Winnipeg Beach, P. J. Lowe, Cartwright, A. Todd, Morris, W. Kendall, Morden, D. R. Gerrard, Somerset, and W. Gladys, Arborg, Man.

A number of important reports were presented by the various committee heads, including report on civic affairs given by Ken Beach, who also presented the treasurer's report in the absence of Bob Hurwitz; Mesho Triller reported on the Projectionists' Examining Board; Harold Bishop reported on the tremendous work conducted by the Public Relations Committee; Ben Sommers reported on the National Committee and National Council Meetings, on the Amusement Tax, and gave the President's Report on the year's activities.

Discussions were held on the amusement tax question, the business tax, the National Council Public Relations Committee, with special reference to the Oscar Derby which was such a success, Daylight Saving Time, Bingo, Sunday Shows, Minimum Call Hours regulations, etc.

Guest speaker at the Banquet was Winnipeg Tribune Publisher Fred Auger.

Eddie Foy Jr. In "Pajama Game"

Hollywood: — Eddie Foy, Jr. has been signed to re-create his original role of Hines in Warner Bros.' film version of the New York hit musical comedy, "The Pajama Game," starring Doris Day and Carol Haney.

CANADA-U.S.

(Continued from Page 1)

States and Canada and symbolizes the principle of freedom under God on which the governments of the two countries are based.

The guests included dignitaries and civic leaders of the U.S. and Canada, and clergy of both countries representing all faiths. The monolith, designed especially for the Garden with the American flag on one side and the Canadian flag on the other, was presented by the Hon. Judge E. J. Ruegemer of St. Cloud, Minn., National Youth Guidance Director, on behalf of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and D. J. McKenzie, President of International Peace Garden, accepted the gift.

The Ten Commandments monolith is placed just a short distance from the now famous cairn, unveiled when the Garden was dedicated in 1932, with its bronze plaque bearing the inscription: "To God In His Glory—We Two Nations Dedicate This Garden and Pledge Ourselves That as Long as Men Shall Live, We Will Not Take Up Arms Against One Another."

The presentation of the Ten Commandments monolith is a major event of the Fraternal Order of Eagles' program, not only placing The Law on which ALL law of free peoples is based where visitors to the beautiful park may see it, but also serving to dramatize the amity which has existed so long between the U.S. and Canada.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, numbering nearly 900,000 members, have pledged themselves to post in every public place, wherever possible, the Ten Commandments. In every community where the Eagles is represented, members work actively through churches, schools and other civic organizations, to implement their Youth Guidance program. An integral part of this is designed to ensure that every child knows—and obeys—the Commandments.

James Daley Added To "Strike A Blow" Cast

Hollywood: James Daley, who has distinguished himself as a star of television, motion pictures and the theatre has been signed to play the role of the father in "Strike A Blow," which stars James MacArthur, the 17-year-old son of Helen Hayes and the late Charles MacArthur. Also starring in the picture which Stuart Millar will produce for RKO is Kim Hunter, with James Gregory and Jeff Silver.

Veteran Showman Dies From Fall

Victoria: J. M. "Jock" Robertson, veteran Famous-Players theatre manager, and for many years manager of the Capitol Theatre here, died last week as the result of injuries suffered in a fall down the rear stairs of the Atlas Theatre, of which he was currently manager. A charter member of the Famous-Players 25-Year Club, "Jock" Robertson came into the company with its incorporation in 1920. For 25 years he was at the helm of the Capitol Theatre, before transferring to the Atlas. "Jock" had just returned to work after recovering from a recent operation. He had been in the basement of the Atlas inspecting the theatre's cooling system, when he took the fall which resulted in his death from concussion.

Hit Song For Hutton Starrer

Hollywood: Bryna Productions has acquired a Harry Warren-Johnny Mercer song to be used as a title tune for its forthcoming film "Spring Reunion," which will be released by United Artists. Starring Betty Hutton and Dana Andrews, the movie went into production recently with Robert Pirosh directing for producer Jerry Bresler.

Malden In "Piersall"

Hollywood: Karl Malden, Academy Award-winning actor, has been signed by Paramount to portray the famous baseball star's father in "The Jim Piersall Story." Malden will co-star with Anthony Perkins, who has the title role in the VistaVision production based on the best selling book, "Fear Strikes Out".

U.A. Week Heads For All-Time High

Toronto: Charles S. Chaplin, Canadian District Manager for United Artists, advised The Digest this week, that as of Monday, approximately 1,600 feature playdates in over 850 Canadian theatres had been definitely set for U.A. Week, July 1-7. This compares with 1,412 feature playdates in 786 Canadian theatres during the U.A. Week last year, when the Canadian District won first place in the Drive, although none of the Canadian branches placed in the first three. This year, with two weeks' intensive booking still to go, and last year's figures already beaten by a wide margin, Chaplin is hopeful of not only again achieving top district, but confidently expects at least one or two of the Canadian branches to also be included among the winners.

Co-Star Ralph Meeker In "Run Of Arrow"

Hollywood: Ralph Meeker has been signed by RKO for a co-starring role in "Run of the Arrow," which Producer-Director Samuel Fuller put before the color cameras June 18. Meeker joins a cast which is rapidly becoming one of the season's more interesting star groups, with Rod Steiger, Sarita Montiel and Brian Keith already secured for other stellar assignments.

Team Blyth-O'Connor

Hollywood: Ann Blyth has been set for the key co-starring role opposite Donald O'Connor in Paramount's "The Buster Keaton Story," which Robert Smith and Sidney Sheldon are co-producing and writing, with Sheldon also directing.



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REPUBLIC

(Continued from Page 1)

any changes in the control of the company in the U.S., would in no way interfere with its status as a producing company for theatrical films.

Heading the list of upcoming top Republic features to be distributed by JARO in Canada is the Zane Grey classic, "The Maverick Queen", first film to be produced in Republic's new wide-screen process, Naturama. Filmed on location in Colorado, in Trucolor, "The Maverick Queen" co-stars Barbara Stanwyck, Barry Sullivan, Scott Brady and Mary Murphy, with Joe Kane, one of Hollywood's outstanding outdoor-action experts, acting as associate producer. Joni James, M-G-M recording star, sings the title song for the picture.

Currently in release are two outstanding Republic productions, "Come Next Spring", in Trucolor, with Ann Sheridan and Steve Cochran, a perfect piece of film entertainment for the whole family; and "Magic Fire", in Trucolor, starring Alan Badel, Yvonne De Carlo, Valentina Cortesa, Frederick Valk, and Rita Gam. This latter picture, based on the life and loves of the famous composer, Richard Wagner, includes much of his inspiring music. The picture was given a Royal Premiere in London, England, recently for the Family Welfare Association. It was produced and directed by one of the Industry's top craftsmen, William Dieterle.

Coming soon for Republic for release through JARO are the African adventure film "Zanzabuku"; "Jaguar", with Sabu and Chiquita; "No Man's Woman", with Marie Windsor and Patric Knowles; "Track The Man Down", with Kent Taylor and Petula Clark; "When Gangland Strikes", with Raymond Greenleaf and Marjie Miller; "Fighting Chance", starring Rod Cameron and Julie London; "Stranger At My Door", with Macdonald Carey and Patricia Medina; "Circus Girl", in Trucolor, starring Willy Birgel and Kristina Soederbaum; "Thunder Over Arizona", in Naturama and Trucolor, with Skip Homeier, Kristine Miller, George Macready and Wallace Ford.

Also scheduled for future release are "Fight At Apache Wells", in Naturama and Trucolor; "White Nightmare", with Joan Evans and Ben Cooper; "Dakota Incident", in Trucolor, with Dale Robertson and Linda Darnell; "Daniel Boone", in Trucolor, with Bruce Bennett, Lon Chaney, Jr., and Faron Young; "Dangerous Cargo",

Exhibits Should Insure Against Loss Of Films

Toronto: Arch Jolley, Executive Secretary of the MPTA of Ontario, in the monthly bulletin of the Association, reminds Ontario exhibitors that they are responsible for film from the time it leaves the exchange until it is returned through a common carrier and receipt obtained. As Arch points out, in order to keep down express charges, films are insured through the express companies, for \$50 only.

There have been instances where exhibitors have had to pay as much as \$1,500 for film destroyed by fire or stolen, one insurance company alone having paid out 15 claims. Arch, in his bulletin, further reminds exhibitors that for a trifling premium, an exhibitor can get a "Film Property Floater Policy" covering all risks for film and advertising material up to \$1,500, thus insuring against fire, theft, burglary, explosion, larceny, etc., on films and advertising material from the time they leave the exchange until they are returned. The Digest is happy to pass Archie's advice to Ontario exhibitors on to all exhibitors in the Dominion. Protect yourself with such a Floater Policy, and avoid the possibility of a \$1,500 personal loss.

Reporter's Novel Bought By Metro

Hollywood: "Spectacular," a first novel by Bob Thomas, Hollywood motion picture reporter (A.P.), has been purchased by MGM. The story weaves around a 90-minute television tribute to a fabulous film producer, bringing to Hollywood the former and present stars with whom he has been associated during his long career and revealing intimately their romances, triumphs and frustrations.

with Dane Clark, William Talman and May Wynn; "In Old Vienna" (tentative title), in Trucolor, a James Fitzpatrick production; "Acapulco Story" (tentative title), in Trucolor, with Ralph Meeker and Janice Rule; "Hinky Dinky Parlez-Vous", starring Mickey Rooney and Wally Cox; "Mystery of Emery Snow", and "Man In Question".

In addition, two John Wayne starrers, "Sands of Iwo Jima", with John Agar, and "Wake of the Red Witch", with Gail Russell, will be put into re-release this year.

ASN Announces Sales Force Appointments

Montreal: Murray Briskin, Executive Assistant to ASN's President Maxwell Cummings, announces the following changes in the Company's Sales structure. Norman Hull, formerly Quebec District Manager, becomes General Sales Manager. Jack Mackay, formerly a member of the Quebec Sales Force, becomes Ontario District Manager, headquartering in and managing ASN's Toronto branch.

"Nick" Nicholson, formerly in charge of Laboratory Sales and Service, becomes Quebec District Sales Manager. Armand Lefebvre becomes Service Manager for the Laboratory division of the Company.

All changes are effective immediately, with Mackay scheduled to make the permanent move to Toronto July 15th.

Goulding Assignment

Hollywood: Edmund Goulding has been assigned to direct "Our Teenage Daughter," new title for "Roomful of Roses," Ginger Rogers CinemaScope starrer which Charles Brackett will produce at 20th Century-Fox.

George Seaton Again Heads Academy Board

Hollywood: At the first meeting of the newly-elected Board of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences held in Hollywood two weeks ago, the first order of business was the election of officers to head the organization until May, 1957. The following were unanimously named: George Seaton, President; Samuel G. Engel, First Vice-President; Fred L. Metzler, Second Vice-President; Hal Elias, Secretary; Perry Lieber, Assistant Secretary; John O. Aalberg, Treasurer; Jacob H. Cap, Assistant Treasurer; and Margaret Herrick, Executive Director. All were re-elected to the posts held last year with the exception of Hal Elias, who had served as Assistant Secretary, and the present addition of Perry Lieber.

Ryan In "Men In War"

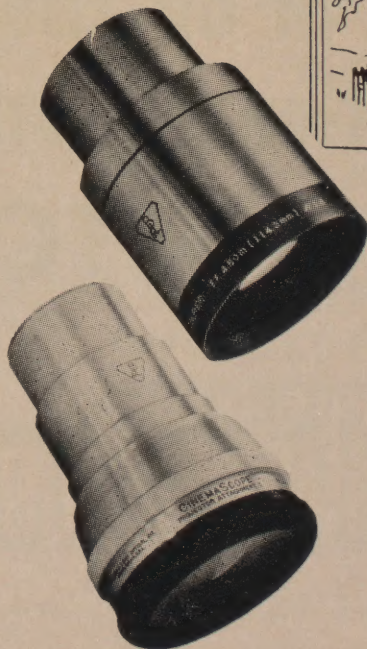
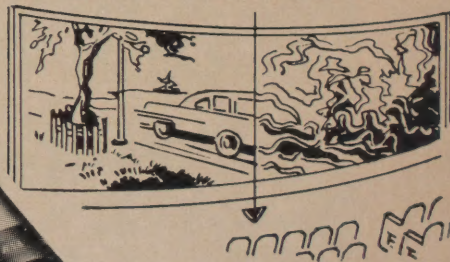
Hollywood: Robert Ryan has been signed by Security Pictures to star in "Men In War," based on an original story by Philip Yordan, Academy Award-winning writer, which will be produced by Sidney Harmon for United Artists release.

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RADIO
PICTURES

PIONEERS

(Continued from Page 1)

was held recently at the Sheraton-Mt. Royal Hotel in Montreal, and proved to be a tremendous success. A record-breaking attendance was on hand, and a number of important matters were discussed.

The following officers were elected for the year: Ernest Ouimet, Honorary President; Romeo Vandette, President; Len Jones, 1st Vice-President; Armand Besse, 2nd Vice-President; Bill Gus, 3rd Vice-President; Arthur Larente, Secretary-Treasurer; Eddie Schreider, Assistant-Treasurer, Frank Makarios, Chairman, Welfare Committee; Oscar Richards, Chairman, Fund Raising Committee; John Levitt, Chairman, Membership Committee; Phil Maurice, Special Events Chairman; Allan Spencer, Chairman, Publicity Committee.

Board of Directors elected include Harold Vance, Guy Bachand, U. S. Allaire, Paul Lafontaine, M. J. Isman, Mel Lodge, Bill Manard, Nick Lazanis, Harold Giles, Lloyd Pearson, Harold Walker and Bill Deveault. Trustees are Arthur Hirsch, B. E. Norrish, J. A. De-Seve, Bill Lester and Bill Singleton.

Following the meeting, the Pioneers were hosts to confreres in the industry at a cocktail party preceding the Banquet, which was also well patronized. The Hon. Herve L'Heureux, U.S. Consul General in Montreal, was the Guest Speaker. His Worship Mayor Jean Drapeau of Montreal, and Rene Lemyre, General Manager of the Montreal Baseball Club were honored guests.

Arthur Larente, Secretary-Treasurer of the Quebec Pioneers, and local manager for Peerless Films, was named "Pioneer of the Year" for his outstanding work on behalf of the Association.

Nancy Gates Co-Stars In "Bridey Murphy"

Hollywood: Actress Nancy Gates has been signed as a co-star of Paramount's "The Search For Bridey Murphy." She will play the choice role of Hazel Bernstein, wife of famed hypnotist Morey Bernstein, who authored the best-selling book upon which the film is based. The choice of Miss Gates, who last appeared at Paramount in "The Atomic City," completes the difficult lead casting in "Bridey Murphy" which began production two weeks ago. Teresa Wright had previously been announced as Ruth Simmons, and Louis Hayward was cast as Morey Bernstein.



Competing for the title of Toronto Motion Picture Softball League Queen, are the four beauties seen above. L. to r. Barbara Bain, General Theatre Supply, Deanna Love, Odeon Theatres, Roselyn Dodson, Film Distributors, and Dorothy Forbes, Theatre Confections Ltd. Judges will be top personalities in the fields of entertainment and sports. Judging will be held Monday evening, June 25th, at Highview Park, Scarborough, and a crown will be presented to the winner at that time.

BALL GAME

(Continued from Page 1)

variety show headed by TV star "Red" Buttons, Paul Winchell and Will Mahoney, plus Shirley Harmer and Clint McKay and his Melody Ranch group, and a fine ticket-selling job by the committee headed by Harvey Harnick, the financial success of the game is considerably below expectations. Accurate figures are not available at this writing, but it is understood that although actual attendance was just around the 6,000 mark, many more tickets were sold, but not used. The program, which was put out by a committee headed by Chet Friedman, is expected to net over \$25,000 for the Heart Fund.

May Wynn Returns

Hollywood: May Wynn, who started her film career at Columbia as the feminine lead in "The Caine Mutiny," will return to play the title role in "The White Squaw," Technicolor Western in which David Brian heads the cast and Bill Bishop has the romantic lead opposite her. Producer Wallace MacDonald is in charge of the production, with Ray Nazarro directing.

Fire Destroys B.C. Theatre

Vancouver: The Academy Theatre, Maillardville, B.C., operated by Harold Locke, was completely destroyed by fire last week, only a few minutes after a near-capacity audience had left the 449-seat house. Fire was said to be caused by a short circuit in the wiring. Locke set his loss in projection and other equipment at around \$3,000. Mrs. M. Eskestrand, owner of the building, stated it was fully covered by insurance. Estimated loss by the fire was set at \$90,000. Maillardville is a small town of approximately 1,200 population, in the New Westminster area.

Paul Douglas Joins Hope In "Beau James"

Hollywood: Versatile Paul Douglas has been cast as Chris "Red" Nolan, urbane and important politico of the James J. Walker regime, in Paramount's "Beau James." Douglas will be co-starred with Bob Hope in the Walker biofilm, which Mel Shavelson and Jack Rose will produce and direct from their own script.

Big Campaign Set Up For "D-Day" Premiere

Toronto: Russ McKibben, manager of the Imperial Theatre here, has lined up a powerful campaign for his engagement on the 20th Century-Fox production of "D-Day, The Sixth of June," which opens at the Imperial, Thursday, June 21st. For Russ, the job of organizing the campaign for this particular picture, was almost a labor of love, as he himself served with the Canadian Army during World War II, and landed on the beaches of Normandy just two weeks after D-Day.

Russ contacted a number of his old officer-buddies, and secured their co-operation on his campaign. He arranged several screenings to which he invited the press, radio, bookstore personnel, veterans and top-ranking officers including those connected with the Queen's Own Rifles. As a result of his efforts, he was able to arrange for the Queen's Own (the only Toronto regiment which took part in the D-Day invasion), to parade to the theatre and present their colors on opening night.

In addition, Russ arranged a book tie-up with Doubleday Canada Ltd., Canadian publishers of Lionel Shapiro's book, "The Sixth of June," with banners for their trucks, counter and window displays for book shops and department stores.

A radio contest was set with station CKEY, based on the theme "Where Were You On 'D-Day, The Sixth of June.'" Winner, each day for ten consecutive days to receive a hard-cover copy of the novel.

Russ also arranged with Gerald Pratley, CBC Film Commentator to devote his entire half-hour program to saluting Lionel Shapiro for his outstanding novel, and 20th Century-Fox for the production of the picture. This broadcast will be aired over the CBC Network, the night of the Imperial opening, June 21st.

Foto-Nite Houses Advertise Jointly

Hamilton: The eight theatres in Hamilton which have combined for a weekly Foto-Nite offer have also joined forces in the use of display advertising in the Hamilton Spectator under the heading of "Best in Entertainment Every Night." The theatres comprise the Delta, Queen's, Empire, Windsor, York, Mcuntain, the Roxy in nearby Burlington and the Roxy at Dundas.